

Flammability Committee Report

- Last official meeting – 3/6/00 - Held in conjunction with AFMA Flammability Conference. This has become the default plan as it works well for most members.
- Activities:
 1. **California TB-117 Planned Revisions.** The current Cal TB-117 standard is 25 years old and up for revision. BIFMA has volunteered to help with the rewrite effort. Concern that there may be pressure to move in the direction of CPSC open-flame test, since CPSC does not appear to consider Cal 117, as it is, a meaningful test. (See action item below.)
 2. **California TB-133/New Hampshire.** NH may be considering legislative action requiring the use of the Cal TB-133 requirements, or something similar. BIFMA Government Affairs staff to check into the detail of any proposed legislation. Members are asked to contact BIFMA with any information they may have on the subject. Goal is to assure requirements, if instituted, are identical to TB-133.
 3. **Polyurethane labeling.** CPSC has been petitioned to require labeling of polyurethane foam. May be aimed at bulk shipments, but could require “pass-through” labeling citing fire danger of products containing this material. BIFMA staff to contact Polyurethane Foam Association for additional information. Members asked to report to BIFMA regarding labeling of foam as received or shipped.
 4. **CPSC open-flame test.** Continuing to follow CPSC activities relating to open-flame ignition test. BIFMA continues to maintain a watchful eye on these activities. Significant work is underway by the National Academy of Sciences regarding health/environmental impact of fire retardants that may be used to treat textiles. The General Accounting Office is continuing its economic assessment via cost-benefit analysis. BIFMA will be attending upcoming American Textile Manufacturer’s Association (ATMI) meeting as part of ongoing monitoring of this issue.
 5. **Underwriter’s Laboratory Fabric Recognition Program.** Reports from BIFMA members suggest a varied understanding of this program and lack of uniformity in application between member companies. BIFMA will be working with UL to gain clarity/consistency relative to this program. As a separate initiative, based on member interest, BIFMA will encourage and support efforts to add fabric blends to this program.